



News Release

Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency

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3701 North Fairfax Drive
Arlington, VA 22203-1714

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 30, 2003

Attention: Editors, Reporters and Documentary Producers

Contact: Don Shipley, 202/289-2001

DARPA Grand Challenge Competitors' Conference to Hold Press Briefing

Organizers of \$1 Million Autonomous Robotic Ground Vehicle Challenge Available for Interviews and Photo-Ops at February 22, 2003 Meeting in Los Angeles

The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), the central research and development organization for the U.S. Department of Defense, announces it will hold a press briefing on Saturday, February 22, 2003, in Los Angeles, for members of the media and documentary producers interested in covering the challenge of autonomous robotic ground vehicles it will hold in 2004.

This DARPA Grand Challenge is currently scheduled for early 2004, and will cover a route from near Los Angeles to near Las Vegas. The challenge is intended to spur the accelerated development of autonomous robotic vehicle technologies for military applications, and offers participants a unique opportunity to help shape this promising new dimension of our national defense. DARPA will award \$1 million to the team that most quickly completes the route in less than the prescribed time.

The competitors' conference press briefing will provide interested members of the media and documentary producers a first glimpse at plans for the Grand Challenge and some of the organizations that are planning to participate. Dr. Anthony J. Tether, Director of DARPA, will be available for questions, along with other Challenge organizers. Members of the media and documentary producers in attendance will also have access to certain other conference sessions yet to be determined.

The competitors' conference press briefing is open to all legitimate news organizations and documentary producers who register in advance using the phone, email or web site information listed below. The Grand Challenge web site – www.darpa.mil/grandchallenge – also includes the latest information on rules, eligibility requirements and guidelines for media coverage. Please use the registration section on the web site that is specially designated for media.

Who: DARPA Grand Challenge organizers, potential participants, and members of the media and documentary producers interested in covering the Grand Challenge

(more)

What: DARPA Grand Challenge Competitors' Conference Press Briefing

When: Saturday, February 22, 1:00 PST

Where: Petersen Automotive Museum
6060 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90036

Information/ grandchallenge@darpa.mil

Registration: www.darpa.mil/grandchallenge
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